

## Public Notice Submission

**Provider Name:** Arkansas Telephone Company, Inc.

**Summary:** Arkansas Telephone Company began in 1908. Nestled in the foothills of the Ozark Mountains near the beautiful Greers Ferry Lake, Arkansas Telephone Company offers state-of-the-art telecommunications to Van Buren County and parts of Cleburne, Conway, Pope, Searcy, and Stone Counties. Providing service in Clinton, Fairfield Bay, Shirley, Scotland and surrounding communities with telecommunications and broadband services to their rural customers, they pride themselves in leading the community in modern technology. Arkansas Telephone Company currently offers service to over 9000 access lines. In addition to Telephone Services, Arkansas Telephone Company (Artelco) has also offered their customers Internet Access for many years, and in 2004, expanded to offer both residential and commercial DSL service to customers in North Central Arkansas. It has been the mission of Arkansas Telephone to provide their customers with unprecedented levels of service and their goal is to continue offering the latest technology in telecommunications and broadband. To accomplish this mission Arkansas Telephone implemented an aggressive deployment construction program where it has invested millions of dollars in fiber infrastructure and last mile facilities over the past several years. In part, a portion of this aggressive construction was financed through the Rural Utilities Service program. Arkansas Telephone has built gig transport services to each exchange. In addition to these gig transport services, Arkansas Telephone as also acquired first mile commitments to support these services. Arkansas Telephone Company demonstrates that it provides broadband service throughout its entire service areas located in Arkansas, which is included in the proposed funded Service Area in some BTOP applications and that Arkansas Telephone's service area is not unserved or underserved. 100% of the households in Arkansas Telephone's service area are able to readily subscribe upon request to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband services at a minimum transmission speed of greater than 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream from Arkansas Telephone; 100% of the households in Arkansas Telephone's service area have access to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband service at greater than the minimum broadband transmission speed as set forth in the definition of broadband; Arkansas Telephone advertises broadband service at broadband transmission speeds of at least 3 megabits per second downstream throughout its service area; and the rate of broadband subscribership in Arkansas Telephone's service area is greater than 40 percent of households. Based on the foregoing, Arkansas Telephone Company has demonstrated that all claims that the proposed funded service area which overlaps Arkansas Telephone's service area is [unserved/underserved] is not correct. Further, because 100% of households in Arkansas Telephone's service area are able to readily subscribe upon request to facilities-based, terrestrial broadband services at a minimum transmission speed of greater than 768 kbps downstream and 200 kbps upstream from Arkansas Telephone, the proposed funded service area that overlaps Arkansas Telephone's service area is not underserved.